

CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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2003

14 May 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Western Hemisphere Division

SUBJECT : PBSUCCESS
Col. Carlos Enrique Diaz, Guatemalan Chief
of Armed Forces

1. Details of [] work will be furnished by him; however, the following is a general picture of efforts at the attempted defection of subject in Caracas.
2. The writer arrived at Caracas as scheduled on Sunday morning, 9 May. [] arrived the same day in the afternoon, although he said he had to change his arrangements in Panama.
3. [] was in close contact with the local CIA manager and was advised when subject and his group reached Maiquetia on 10 May about 9:00 A.M.
4. Original contact between [] and subject went off as scheduled. When the group arrived at the desk of the Hotel Tamanaco, subject was approached by [] as planned. According to the [] the subject appeared visibly embarrassed.
5. [] again approached the subject on the afternoon of the same day in the barber shop. The subject agreed to a meeting with [] the next day, but did not keep the appointment. It was obvious from there on that subject was determined to avoid [] at all events.
6. The [] made his last pitch on the morning of Wednesday, 12 May, when he encountered the subject's aide, Lt. Debroy, in the lobby of the hotel. Debroy said he would speak to the subject, but no results came from the request.
7. [] believes that subject was avoiding him because of extreme embarrassment at being discovered traveling with his mistress. This might be true; however, the writer has two other reasons to offer: a) one of the officers traveling with subject might be doing so to check on his activities, on instructions either from Arbenz or from subject himself; b) subject might not have wanted to see [] under any circumstances.

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8. The mechanics of the operations could not have worked out better. [] while not briefed in detail, indicated his willingness to cooperate and [] on his own initiative, lined up an alternate cut-out and was working to establish a safe-house.

9. The writer feels that, though the objective of the operation was not attained, everything possible within the limits of good security was done to achieve success.

[]

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